

USE OF FORCE: Totality of the Circumstances

DVD-ROM Video

Multimedia I.D. Number: 280

CPT Hours: 2

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Though using force is rare, it is still a possible outcome each time an officer goes into the field. It is best practice to always be prepared for a possible use of force encounter.

Use of force is not only about which weapon or tactic to use, but about making good lawful decisions and being able to articulate and detail all of the factors and reasons why force was used. Being able to explain the decision as to why force was used-- not in just that instant, but under the totality of the circumstance-- is imperative.

The goal of this training program is to provide law enforcement with a depth of understanding and confidence in applying the laws regarding the use of force. This training will increase the effectiveness of officers in recalling and articulating the totality of the circumstances under which the force was used.

Segments include:

- Legal Standards
- Resistance and Force Options
- Totaling Up the Force Equation
- Making a Good Movie
- Telling Your Story for the First Time
- Final Thoughts

The DVD-ROM includes a printable *Use of Force Equation* card (PDF) that officers can laminate and carry as a good resource to have for all report writing, courtroom testimony, and in helping prepare to make good decisions when faced with a resistive or combative subject.

The DVD-ROM also offers two viewing modes and printable instructor and trainee documents as follows:

Facilitated/Group Viewing

Each segment features a short introduction, followed by scenarios with related questions and activities to assist in facilitating a group discussion. The facilitator has the option to play subject matter expert comments after the discussion to re-emphasize a training point or to ensure all topics are covered. A "Facilitator Guide" document (PDF) is included on the disc for printout from a computer.

Informational/Individual Viewing

This viewing mode allows an individual trainee or a small group of trainees to view the training video without formal (classroom) facilitation by an instructor. Features the same scenarios and questions or activities as the "Facilitated Group Course" track. Individual viewers may view sample group discussions, followed by comments from subject matter experts that reiterate and reinforce the teaching points. A "Student Workbook" document (PDF) is included on the disc for printout from a computer.



Video Program Guide

California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training